

Natural Gas Orders - Issued 1997

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPLAINT FILED BY TODD SCHAUFENBUEL, HURON, SD, AGAINST NORTHWESTERN PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY))))	ORDER DISMISSING COMPLAINT AND CLOSING DOCKET NG97-005
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On April 2, 1997, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a complaint filed by Todd Schaufenbuel of 809 Nebraska Street SW, Huron, South Dakota (Complainant), against Northwestern Public Service Company (NWPS). Complainant alleges that he experienced unusually high gas utility bills in December 1996 and January 1997, and that attempts to diagnose the cause, such as changing the gas meter, have proved futile.

On April 15, 1997, a duly noticed meeting, the Commission reviewed the complaint. The Commission found that it has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL 49-34A-2, 49-34A-4, and ARSD 20:10:01:08.01 and 20:10:01:09. The Commission voted unanimously to find probable cause. The Commission further ordered NWPS to have the meter tested at an independent testing facility. Subsequently, a compromise was reached between NWPS and the Complainant. On September 23, 1997, NWPS provided the meter test results to Commission staff. A regularly scheduled October 9, 1997, meeting, the Commission reviewed the meter test results. Staff provided information to the Commission on the meter test results and further recommended that the docket be dismissed. The Commission being satisfied with the providing of the meter test results and it appearing that the matter is resolved between the Complainant and NWPS, it is therefore

ORDERED that the complaint is hereby dismissed; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that this docket be and is hereby closed.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 17th day of October, 1997.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

The undersigned hereby certifies that this document has been _____
served today upon all parties of record in this docket, as
listed on the docket service list, by facsimile or by first class JAMES A. BURG, Chairman
mail, in properly addressed envelopes, with charges prepaid

thereon.

By: _____

PAM NELSON, Commissioner

Date: _____

LASKA SCHOENFELDER,
Commissioner

(OFFICIAL SEAL)

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